



News, Events and Information

Bike Columbus!

Join Mayor Michael B. Coleman, Columbus Public Health, Consider Biking and sponsors American Electric Power, Trek, and BikeSource for a weekend of bike events July 15th - 17th! The series of events kicks off on Friday night at City Hall with the Mayor's Twilight Ride, which offers 12 or 25 mile rides and ends with an after party on Gay Street. Saturday will feature the Steve Barbour Memorial Tour, with longer ride options of 31, 62, 93, or 124 miles starting at Bicentennial Park. Sunday concludes the weekend with the Family Fun Bike Fest at COSI.

To get more information and to register for the event, visit www.bikecolumbusfestival.com.

Low Cost Rain Barrel Program Announced

Together with Councilmember Eileen Paley, Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District and Grief/EarthMinded LLC, Mayor Michael B. Coleman announced a new discount rain barrel program for city residents. Residents are eligible for the barrels at the reduced price of \$45 from the retail cost of \$139 by registering for [GreenSpot](#) and either attending a workshop on rain barrels or taking an [online](#) quiz. The goal of the program is to teach Columbus residents about methods to reduce storm water runoff. Each household is limited to one barrel through the program.

To get more information, call 614-486-9613 or visit www.ColumbusRainBarrels.org.

City Breaks Ground on Compressed Natural Gas Station

Mayor Michael B. Coleman and Councilmember Priscilla Tyson broke ground on a compressed natural gas (CNG) station in June at the city's fleet management facility off Groves Road on Columbus' far east side. Once complete, the station will be open for use by the public as well as for the city's own fleet of CNG vehicles. These 24 heavy-duty CNG vehicles including garbage trucks, snow plows, street sweepers, and vacuum trucks, will help Columbus to eliminate about 40,000 gallons of diesel fuel a year. CNG reduces carbon emissions by as much as 90% compared with diesel, and using CNG with the 24 vehicles is the equivalent of taking 96 cars off the road annually. The cost per gallon equivalent for CNG is about \$1.50, compared to around \$4.00 for diesel. The City expects fuel savings of \$60,000 to \$90,000 a year.

Accolades

- The Columbus Division of Fleet Management was honored as the the third best fleet in North America, from a selection pool of over 38,000 fleets. Although the fleet has made the top 100 four years in a row and this is the third year it has reached the top 20, the third place award was a large improvement over 2010's 16th place.

- Congratulations to the Columbus Downtown Development Corporation for opening the Columbus Commons and the Scioto Mile!

The [Columbus Commons](#) has added greenspace to downtown Columbus featuring a cafe, carousel, stage, outdoor reading room, as well as bike parking. The [Scioto Mile](#) features centerpiece fountains, a performing arts pavilion, restaurant, and many tables and chairs for visitors to relax along the riverfront. The park has many green features including bioswales to filter pollutants from rain runoff using plants, solar panels, restored river banks, and shade trees. Be sure to visit while the weather is nice!

Green Events & Activities

- **BikeColumbus:** July 15th-17th, various locations. Visit www.bikecolumbusfestival.com for more information
- **Riverfest 2011:** A celebration of our waterways taking place throughout July with a series of events culminating on July 29th at COSI.
- Save the Date! **Bike the C-Bus:** A 30 mile ride with stops featuring neighborhoods throughout Columbus including the King Lincoln District, Old Towne East, Downtown and more on September 3rd.

Questions, comments, concerns? Interact with us online by becoming a Fan of Columbus GreenSpot on [Facebook](#)!



Support **Get Green Columbus** by becoming a **GreenSpot** member today!

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